States	Union Territories
7. Himachal Pradesh	7. Pondicherry
8. Jammu & Kashmir	
9. Karnataka	
10, Kerala	
11. Maharashtra	
12. Manipur	
13. Meghalaya	
(4. Mizoram	
15. Nagaland	
16. Orissa	
17. Punjab	
18. Sikkim	
19. Tamil Nadu	
20. Tripura	
21. West Bengal	

3. In respect of the remaining States, during the above period ovei 130 illegal arms manufacturing factories were unearthed and over 220 persons were reported to have been arrested and proceeded against.

Sale of imported edible oil by STC in open market

717. SHRI MOSTAFA BIN QUA-SEM: Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Gov ernment have directed S.T.C. to sell imported edible oil in the open mar ket;

(b) if so, what are the reasons therefor;

(c)' whether it is a fact that prices of edible oil have fallen due to the arrival of imported edible oil in the open market; and

(d) what are the reasons for which Government have not increased the imported edible oil quota of the different States instead of selling it in the open market?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI P. R. DAS MTTNSHI): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Government had permitted open sale of imported edible oil with a view to containing the prices in the indigenous market.

(c) The availability of imported edible oil for open market sale has, to some extent, contained the price in the open market.

(d) It is not advisable to increase the edible oil quota of the States at a subsidised price beyond certain limits, since too large a supply of oil at subsidized prices may adversely affect the prices of indigenous edible oils, causing hardship to farmers.